

Agency Information

AGENCY : FBI
RECORD NUMBER : 124-90143-10178
RECORD SERIES : HQ
AGENCY FILE NUMBER : 100-370750-NR

Released under the John
F. Kennedy
Assassination Records
Collection Act of 1992
(44 USC 2107 Note).
Case#:NW 54460 Date:
10-04-2017

Document Information

ORIGINATOR : FBI
FROM : LA
TO : HQ

TITLE :

DATE : 01/20/1944
PAGES : 22

SUBJECTS :

JOHN HOWARD LAWSON

DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT
CLASSIFICATION : Unclassified
RESTRICTIONS : 4
CURRENT STATUS : Redact
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 10/09/1998

OPENING CRITERIA : INDEFINITE

COMMENTS : RPT

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

FILE NO. **100-6769**

REPORT MADE AT LOS ANGELES	DATE WHEN MADE 1/20/44	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 10/16, 23, 26/43 11/1, 2, 15, 16, 21, 22, 24, 30/43 12/1, 8, 23, 27/43	REPORT MADE BY JOHN R. VICARS KPM
TITLE HERBERT JOSEPH BIBERMAN, et al		CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C	
<p>ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL</p>			
<p>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Communist membership records disclose HERBERT BIBERMAN transferred from Branch B (Hollywood), Northwest Section, in October, 1943, to Group 3, Branch A (Writers), Northwest Section. Held 1943 CP Book No. 47073. BIBERMAN observed at apparent branch meetings 12/8/43 by Agents. Subject still employed RKO Studios as writer. He recently sold original screen play to ROBERT GOLDWYN to be filmed as "The Master Race." Informant advised that BIBERMAN is member of temporary Executive Committee, 15th Congressional District Legislative Council, reported Communist dominated organization, and is the guiding force thereof. GALE SONDERGAARD BIBERMAN, wife of subject BIBERMAN, reported to be member of Branch F (Actors), Northwest Section. JOHN HOWARD LAWSON apparently Chairman of Northwest Section Executive Committee, and is assigned to Group 3 Branch A (Writers). He held 1943 CP Book No. 30198. He has recently appeared as lecturer at League of American Writers Seminar, People's Educational Center Conference, and CIO Bill of Rights celebration. LAWSON received appointment in November, 1943, to Board of Contributing Editors of "New Masses." He is member of Continuations Committee of 1943 Writers Congress, and was a contact of JOE NORTH, "New Masses" editor, during NORTH's visit to Los Angeles. LAWSON presently writing script for "Counter Attack," based on original Russian story described previously. Bank account reflects he continues regular payments to MARJORIE J. POTTS, Section Membership Director and Organizational Secretary, Northwest Section, and MADELEINE RUTHVEN, recently a member of the Northwest Section Executive Committee.</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
<p>COPIES OF THIS REPORT</p> <p>⑤ Bureau 1 New York 3 Los Angeles</p>		<p>100-370750 -</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Classified Declassify on: OADR</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NOT RECORDED 82 AUG 3 1960</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CONFIDENTIAL</p>	

DECLASSIFIED BY *Jab/SJ/mtk*
 6-19-85
(JFK)

ORIGINAL FILE 100-24499-292

14th NR. 20

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

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THE NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION

* At New York City, will review the indices of the New York Field Division for any information on RHODA RYPINS. An individual by the name of ISAAC L. RYPINS is mentioned in the Los Angeles files as a radical whose writings were banned from the mails in World War I. Possibly RHODA RYPINS is a relative.

* Will review the reports of highly confidential sources intimate with ALEXANDER STEVENS (New York File 100-24753) to ascertain if STEVENS had contact with HERBERT BIBERMAN on February 20 to 25, 1943, and particularly on February 24 and 25, 1943, the specific period in which BIBERMAN is believed to have been in New York.

THE LOS ANGELES FIELD DIVISION

At Los Angeles, California, will maintain contact with Confidential National Defense Informant LA 78 for bank checks on subjects, and also for check on entrance of BIBERMAN's safe deposit box, No. 820, at this bank.

* Will develop an informant in LAWSON neighborhood for continuous surveillance, it being noted that MARTHA and ELWOOD KAY (employed at LOCKHEED AIRCRAFT CORPORATION), 4524 Coldwater Canyon Avenue, reside in a good location and one which we have previously used to advantage.

* Will contact the appropriate officers of the W. T. GRAND COMPANY, 810 South Spring Street, to ascertain the identity and Communistic tendencies of H. A. BARTH.

* Will ascertain subject BIBERMAN's activities prior to his leadership in the American Peace Mobilization through Confidential National Defense Informant LA 1138.

Will follow the activities of subjects in the Los Angeles area through confidential informants, spot surveillances, and other sources.

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100-24753-101-18

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

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- A: [CONFIDENTIAL NATIONAL DEFENSE INFORMANT LA-2900.]
- B: " " " " LA-HB-1.]
- C: " " " " LA-2529.]
- D: " " " " LA-1357.]
- G: " " " " LA-2722.]
- H: " " " " [LA-EE1.]
- I: Records of Anti-Subversive Department, Los Angeles
Police Department, Wilshire Station.
- J: [CONFIDENTIAL NATIONAL DEFENSE INFORMANT LA MX-2.]
- K: " " " " LA-1138.
- L: Attorney RICHARD E. COMBS, Chief Investigator,
Legislative Joint Fact Finding Committee on Un-
American Activities, who wrote letter to this office
concerning this interview on 12/30/43. (See LA File
100-5377).
- M: RALPH DERR, 1827 North El Cerrito, manager of this
apartment house.
- N: [CONFIDENTIAL NATIONAL DEFENSE INFORMANT LA - C-JZ-2]

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DATE 08-14-01 BY 60322

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